2. (Amended) The laminated beverage carrier <u>for beverage containers</u> of claim 1 wherein said cellulosic fibers are selected from the group consisting of unbleached virgin kraft pulp and recycled pulp.

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- 3. (Amended) The laminated beverage carrier <u>for beverage containers</u> of claim 1 further comprising a layer of water absorbent material disposed on the inner surface of said base layer.
- 4. (Amended) The laminated beverage carrier <u>for beverage containers</u> of claim 3 further comprising a film of water resistant adhesive bonding said absorbent material to said base layer.